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THE **TOP-NOTCH**

NO. 26 APRIL

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MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

The Remington Deluxe Noiseless Portable Typewriter is sold on a trial basis with a money-back guarantee. If, after ten days trial, you are not entirely satisfied, we will take it back, pay all shipping charges and refund your good will deposit at once. You take no risk.

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SEND COUPON

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Buffalo, N. Y.

Tell me, without obligation, how to get a Free Trial of a new Remington Deluxe Noiseless Portable, including Carrying Case and Free 44 page Typing Booklet. Also about the Remington ten pay plan. Send Catalog.

Name.....

Address.....

City.....State.....

THE BLACK HOOD

MAN OF MYSTERY



BEWARE BLACK HOOD! THE THREE FATES, THOSE GRIM SISTERS WHO SPIN THE THREADS OF A MAN'S LIFE INTO STRANGE PATTERNS, ARE ABOUT TO CUT THE THREAD OF YOUR OWN DESTINY. AND WHEN MISCHIEF GUIDES THEIR HANDS, THERE IS LITTLE HOPE FOR MORTAL MAN!





THAT FINISHES HIM. I CAN BREATHE EASIER FROM NOW ON!

BUT THE THREE FATES HAVE NOT YET MARKED THE BLACK HOOD FOR DEATH, AND.....

AS TIME PASSES, CONSCIOUSNESS RETURNS TO THE MAN OF MYSTERY --

AND LIKE THE FOG AROUND HIM, THERE IS ALSO A FOG IN HIS BRAIN.

WHAT AM I DOING HERE?

WHO AM I? WHERE AM I GOING? CAN'T REMEMBER A THING -

LOST IN MIND AND BODY, A CREATURE COMPLETELY SEVERED FROM HIS PAST, THE HOOD WANDERS ALONG THE WATERFRONT...

CRIPES! IT'S DE BLACK HOOD! I'D BETTER GET OUT OF HERE - IT AIN'T SAFE FER GUYS LIKE ME WHEN HE'S AROUND!

WAIT A MINUTE - DERE'S SUMP'N FUNNY ABOUT DE WAY HE LOOKS OR MY NAME AIN'T STINKY DIEMERT!

I'LL BE! --- HE SAW ME --- 'N WALKED RIGHT PAST, LIKE --- LIKE HE'S IN A FOG OR SUMPIN! I'M GONNA FOLLOW HIM!



CRIPES! --- HE'S ACTIN' SO GOOFY, THIS MIGHT BE THE CHANCE OF A LIFETIME I'M GONNA RISK IT.



COME ON, YOU-- JUST KEEP WALKIN' AND NO FUNNY STUFF!

WHO ARE YOU? WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH ME?



WE'LL TALK ABOUT THAT LATER. JUST MOVE ALONG!



STRAIGHT AHEAD-- GO ON!

WHO AM I? I MUST REMEMBER!



IN A ROOM AT THE HEAD OF THE STAIRS SIT "HAPPY" MALONE AND HIS GANG --

BOY HAPPY! THAT JOB AT DIMBEL'S 'LL BE THE BIGGEST HAUL YET! --- LET'S GET STARTED, HUH?

CLAM UP 'N PLAY YER HAND, LIPPY!



I GOT THE JOINT CASED FOR 2 O'CLOCK -- 'N NOT A MINUTE BEFORE -- HEY! WHO IS THAT COMING IN?



WHA-WHAT'S HE DOIN' HERE?

HOLY CROW!

THE BLACK HOOD!







GIMME DAT TYPEWRITER!

ATTA BOY, BOSS, LET HIM HAVE IT!



NOW TALK AND BE QUICK ABOUT IT! WHAT'S YER GAME?

WHY DON'T YOU LEAVE ME ALONE? I HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING!



SOMEBODY MUST KNOW WHO I AM! CAN'T ANYBODY HELP ME?

I'LL BE HANGED IF THIS GUY TALKS OR ACTS LIKE THE BLACK HOOD! HE'S GONE NUTTY!



WHY DON'T YER PLUG HIM, BOSS? IT'S THE CHANCE OF A LIFE-TIME!



ALRIGHT THEN, BOSS, IF YOU WON'T PUT HIM AWAY HERE'S A REAL TEST! THE SUTTON DAMES GIVING US TROUBLE. TELL HIM HE'S "KILLER" BLACK AND HE'S TO KNOCK HER OFF-IF IT WORKS IT'S A BREAK FOR US... OTHERWISE WE CROAK HIM!

OKAY!



I'LL TELL YOU WHO YOU ARE, BROTHER. YOU'RE "KILLER" BLACK-DO YOU UNDERSTAND? "KILLER" BLACK! NOW THERE'S A DAME WHO'S GONNA TURN YOU IN!

"KILLER" BLACK-YES-"KILLER" BLACK!



IF YOU KNOCK THIS DAME OFF, YOU'LL BE SAFE FROM THE COPS-GET THAT?

YES, I'M TO KILL HER! THEN I'LL BE SAFE!

HE BELIEVES IT!

OKAY, "KILLER", GET IN -
WE'RE TAKIN' YOU TO
THE DAME!



HERE'S A
ROD-GO UP
TO 3D AND
USE IT!



WELL, IF
IT ISN'T
THE BLACK
HOOD IN
PERSON!



I'M GOING TO
KILL YOU!

HOOD! WH-
WHAT KIND OF
A JOKE IS
THIS?



I MUST
KILL YOU
OR YOU'LL
TURN ME
OVER TO
THE POLICE!

SOMETHING'S
WRONG WITH
HIM!



HOOD, LISTEN TO ME,
PLEASE -- I'M BARBARA
SUTTON -- REMEMBER?
YOU'RE THE BLACK HOOD -
WE'RE GOOD
FRIENDS!

NO, I'M
KILLER BLACK!



FLASH-KILLER BLACK
WAS KILLED IN A GUN
FIGHT WITH TWO DETECT-
IVES LATE THIS
AFTERNOON!

HOOD,
LISTEN!



THE POLICE CAUGHT
THE MURDERER JUST AS
HE WAS ABOUT TO BOARD
A TRAIN FOR CHICAGO!



LOOK,
HE'S DOIN'
IT BOSS!



HE
GAVE IT
TO HER!



GOOD WORK, "KILLER" --
NOW WE'VE GOT ANOTHER
JOB FOR YOU... AND THIS
ONE MEANS
DOUGH!



WHERE
ARE WE
GOING
NOW?

TO DIMBEL'S WE'RE
GONNA KNOCK OFF
THE GUARDS 'N
GRAB THOSE
ANTIQUES!
THE JOB'S A
SETUP!



WAIT A MINUTE! WHY DO IT
THE HARD WAY? I CAN GET
YOU IN THERE... AND IT WILL
BE A LOT LESS RISKY!

HOW?



JUST LEAVE IT TO
ME!... YOU BOYS
JUST WAIT HERE. I'LL
HAVE THE DOOR
OPEN IN A LITTLE
WHILE... AND YOU
CAN WALK RIGHT IN!



NIMBLE AS A SQUIRREL
THE BLACK HOOD CLAM-
BERS TO AN UPPER
STORY--



AND A SHORT WHILE LATER...



TURNED LOOSE IN A ROOM FULL OF ART TREASURES WORTH MILLIONS, MALONE AND HIS GANG QUICKLY GO TO WORK ---









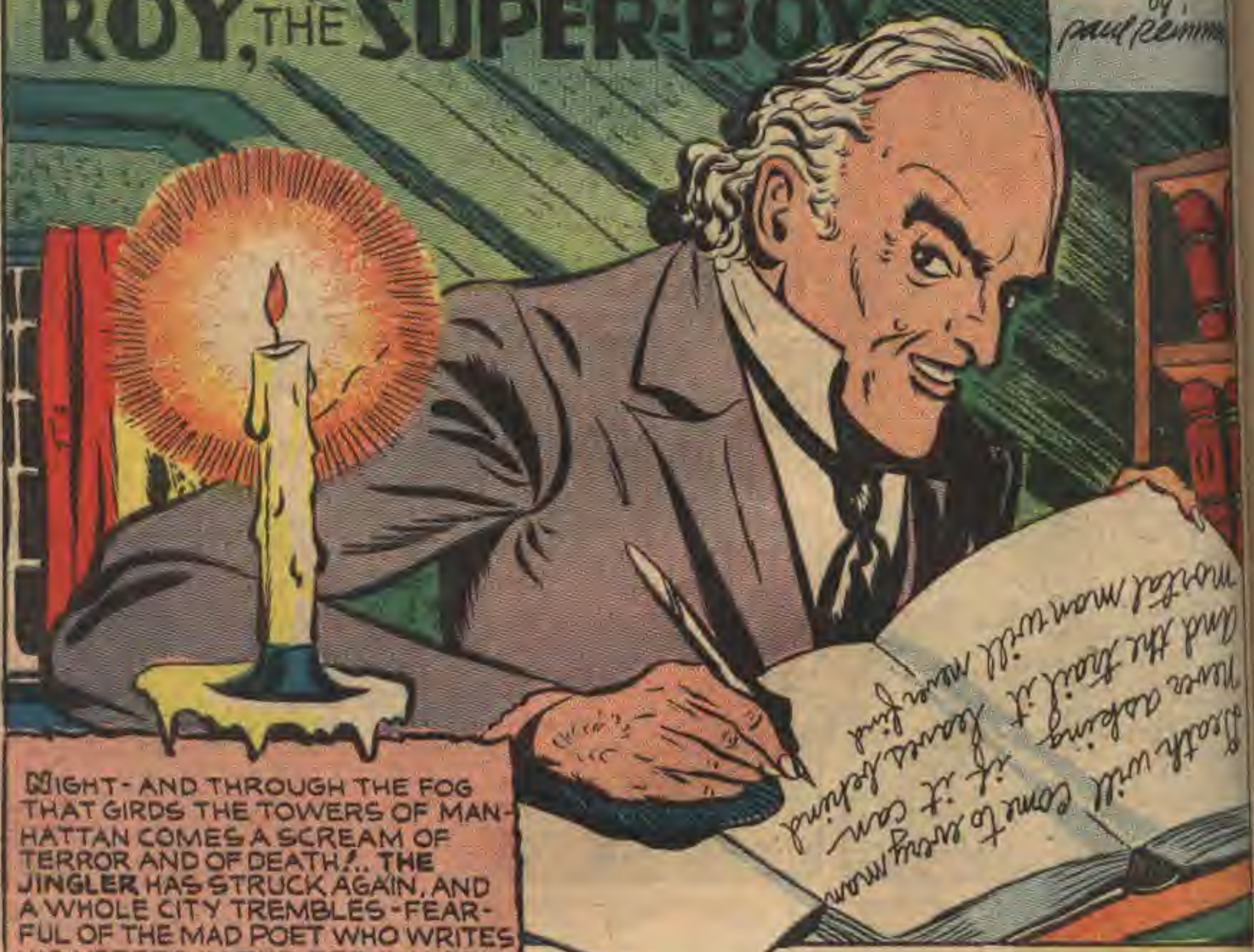


THE HANGMAN WANTS TO EXPRESS HIS PERSONAL GRATITUDE FOR THE WAY YOU'VE RECEIVED HIM IN THE NEW SPECIAL COMICS. THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY HE KNOWS HOW TO EXPRESS HIS APPRECIATION - AND THAT IS BY GIVING YOU THE BEST YARN YOU CAN GET FOR LOVE OR MONEY - A FULL COMIC MAGAZINE OF THE SPECIAL CASES OF THE HANGMAN AND ROY DUSTY, THOSE BOY BUDDIES! ON SALE NOW!

THE WIZARD

WITH ROY, THE SUPER-BOY

by Paul Reinman



NIGHT- AND THROUGH THE FOG THAT GIRDS THE TOWERS OF MANHATTAN COMES A SCREAM OF TERROR AND OF DEATH!... THE JINGLER HAS STRUCK AGAIN, AND A WHOLE CITY TREMBLES- FEARFUL OF THE MAD POET WHO WRITES HIS VERSES IN THE RED INK OF BLOOD. HERE IS, INDEED, A SINISTER OPPONENT FOR THE WIZARD AND ROY THE SUPER-BOY... "THE JINGLER OF DEATH."

*Death will come to every man
if it can leave behind
And the trail it leaves behind
And the trail it leaves behind
And the trail it leaves behind
And the trail it leaves behind*

THERE HE IS- SEND FOR AN AMBULANCE!

HE'S DEAD! EVERY BONE IN HIS BODY IS BROKEN- AND THIS POEM IN HIS HAND... THIS LOOKS LIKE MORE OF THE JINGLER'S WORK!



OUT OF THE MURKY DARKNESS A BODY HURTTLES EARTHWARD.



My only dream had a great fall
But that was really nothing at all
If you really would like to surprise
Wait and see when the deed is done!

IN THE HOME OF BLANE WHITNEY ---

ROY, THIS MINUTE THAT MADMAN MAY BE PLANNING ANOTHER MURDER!

Morning
JINGLER STRIKES AGAIN

BUT WHERE-- AND WHEN? OOPS! --- THE PAPER BLEW RIGHT OUT OF MY HAND.

THE NEWSPAPER - ITS STORY OF CRIME ALREADY OLD, BLOWS IDLY THROUGH THE CITY STREETS--



A GUST OF WIND PICKS IT UP AND CONTINUES ITS AIMLESS JOURNEY TO THE WALL OF A LONELY SHACK NEAR THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE CITY...

AND INSIDE THAT VERY SHACK-- THE JINGLER--

SO THEY WANT TO KNOW WHO THE JINGLER IS, DO THEY? HEH, HEH, WE'LL LET THEM RACK THEIR FOOLISH BRAINS OUT!

WHO IS THIS STRANGE CREATURE? FOR THE ANSWER LET US GO BACK A FEW MONTHS TO THE DAY EDWARD FEARING, A POVERTY STRICKEN POET, WAS BEING THROWN OUT OF STILL ANOTHER PUBLISHER'S OFFICE...

IF THAT'S POETRY, I'LL EAT IT-- NO ONE WANTS TO READ TRASH LIKE THAT!

NO MORE CREDIT FOR YOU! YOU OWE ME FOR THREE MONTHS' BILLS ALREADY!

ROGER SCHULTZ PROP.



I MUST HAVE FOOD!
I'LL JUST TAKE THIS
AND PAY HIM FOR
IT LATER!



THIEF!
I'LL TURN
YOU OVER
TO THE
POLICE!



IN THE STRUGGLE THE POET
IS FORCED BACKWARD AND
HIS FINGERS CLOSE ON AN
IRON CURTAIN-ROD--



AAGH!



DEAD!
I'VE KILLED
HIM!



I DIDN'T MEAN TO KILL
HIM! THEY'LL HANG ME!
THEY'LL NEVER BELIEVE
IT WAS AN ACCIDENT!



THE POET FLEES, BUT IN HIS
FRANTIC HASTE HE FAILS TO OB-
SERVE A PAPER CLUTCHED IN THE DEAD
MAN'S HAND --



THEY'LL NEVER SUSPECT ME!
NO ONE SAW ME ENTER OR
LEAVE THE PLACE - I'M SAFE!



Daily News

STRANGE JINGLE MURDER BAFFLES POLICE AU

LEAVING BEHIND A
CURIOUS POEM AS
THE ONLY CLUE TO
HIS IDENTITY A
BRUTAL MURDERER
TODAY STRUCK
DOWN THE...

*Once I wrote a
little rhyme
Of people in an
older time*



NEXT DAY AS EDGAR JAMES, PUBLISHER, LEAVES HIS CLUB -



A SERIES OF JINGLER CRIMES
ROCK THE CITY---

POETRY--AND DEATH! WHAT A
RARE COMBINATION!

BLANE. THE JINGLER, HE'S-
UGH... I'VE
BEEN
SHOT!

ANOTHER
JINGLER MURDER!

COME ON,
ROY!

THE JINGLER
LEFT HIS
CALLING CARD,
A JINGLE!

WE'RE
TOO
LATE-HE'S BEEN
MURDERED!

SO FAR THE JINGLER'S
VICTIMS ARE
ALL
PUBLISHERS
ROY!

THAT'S
SOME-
THING TO
WORK ON-
WIZARD!

MR. STRUNK-
I BELIEVE!

WHAT DO
YOU WANT?

YOUR
LIFE!

THE JINGLER'S NEXT
VICTIM, SIMEON STRUNK-
PUBLISHER--

BANG



A SHOT!
IT SEEMED TO
COME FROM
THAT OFFICE!

SCRAMBLING UP LIKE
A MONKEY, ROY REACHES
THE OFFICE IN TIME TO
SEE --



YOU ONCE SAID YOU'D EAT
MY POETRY, RANDALL --
NOW'S YOUR CHANCE!

YOU'VE WRITTEN
YOUR LAST
RHYME,
JINGLER!



YOU
MEDDLING LITTLE
FOOL, STAND BACK OR
I'LL KILL YOU!



YOU POETS
NEVER DID
MAKE MUCH
SENSE TO
ME!



WHAT'S A GOOD
WORD TO RHYME
WITH KAYO?



THE JINGLER LAUNCHES
A VICIOUS KICK --

DON'T SPEAK
IN HASTE, LITTLE
BOY!



- OR YOU'LL
REPENT AT
LEISURE!



THIS GUN
WORKS AT
BOTH ENDS!



A FEW DAYS LATER IN BLANE WHITNEY'S OFFICE --



THAT NIGHT AT THE BROADCAST--



AS THE BROADCAST BEGINS, AN USHER QUIETLY CLIMBS TO THE PLATFORM--





LEAVING THE PLATFORM,
THE USHER JOSTLES AN
ATTENDANT AND HIS
CAP SLIPS TO ONE SIDE





MADE IT!

MEANWHILE
THE WIZARD
IS PACIFYING THE
FRIGHTENED
CROWD.



I HOPE THE
DELAY HASN'T
MADE ME LOSE
THE JINGLER!



GONE!



I WONDER IF ROY
PICKED UP THE
TRAIL!



AT THAT
VERY
INSTANT -

AH! A
PASSENGER!



I'LL FIX
THAT YOUNG
FOOL!



AS HE ROUNDS
A CORNER THE
JINGLER QUICKLY
THROWS THE CAR
INTO REVERSE -



HE'S
STILL
ALIVE!

OHH!



THE JINGLER
DRIVES TO THE
EDGE OF AN
ABANDONED
ROCK QUARRY-



A FALL FROM
THIS HEIGHT WILL
FINISH THIS IN-
FERNAL IMP!



BUT FIRST -
THE JINGLE!



WIZARD,
OH!



AND INSTANTLY, HIS CRY FLASHES INTO THE
WIZARD'S BRAIN ---

ROY - IN THAT
FIEND'S POWER!



I'VE NO
TIME TO
LOSE!



DROP
THAT BOY,
JINGLER!

WIZARD!

GLADLY, WIZARD...
RIGHT INTO THE
QUARRY!



LIKE A VENGEFUL CYCLONE
THE WIZARD HURTLES
INTO ACTION -



A RAILING BREAKS AND
BOTH MEN TOPPLE INTO
THE CHASM -



THEN THE CRASH-
ING OF BODIES
HITTING THE
QUARRY'S BOTTOM -
AND SILENCE! BROKEN
ONLY BY A SCRAP OF
PAPER RUSTLING
DOWNWARD -

BELOW, THE WIZARD
SEES THE PAPER FLOATING
TO -



WHAT'S
THAT?

-LAND ON THE JINGLER'S
BROKEN CHEST -



WIZARD -
DID YOU -
IS HE...?

HE'S DEAD, ROY - AND
HERE IS HIS STRANGE
EPITAPH, WRITTEN
BY HIM-
SELF!



Life Quickly Cools
In poets and fools
One more life, my friend
Is approaching its end -

MORE OF THE WIZARD AND
ROY THE SUPERBOY IN EVERY
ISSUE OF TOP NOTCH
COMICS.

SNOOP MCGOOK

The SOUPY SLEUTH.....



BURIED IN THE DEEP SOUTH LIES THE SLEEPY LITTLE TOWN OF NOPEOPLE, WHERE NOTHING EVER CHANGES BUT THE WEATHER--- AND WHERE NOBODY EVER WORKS BUT BEPPO, THE HORSE, A REFUGEE FROM A GLUE FACTORY?

THIS IS A ONE HORSE TOWN--- AND I'M IT!



ONE DAY BEPPO LIES DOWN FOR A NOON DAY SNOOZE. AND SO BEGINS THE GREATEST MYSTERY IN THE ANNALS OF HORSE NAPPING.



HO-HUM, GUESS IT'S TIME TO WAKE UP AND QUIT WORK!



BEPPO! HE'S GONE!





HALP! BEPPO'S MISSING! CALL A MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL! CALL THE MAYOR!



AN EMERGENCY COUNCIL MEETING TAKES PLACE--THE FIRST TIME IN TWENTY YEARS ALL THE COUNCIL MEMBERS HAVE BEEN AWAKE AT THE SAME TIME!

WE GOT TO GET BEPPO BACK--OR WE'LL HAVE TO GO BACK TO WORK!



LET'S TRY SNOOP MCGOOK! HE'S THE BEST DETECTIVE IN TOWN, BESIDES BEING THE ONLY ONE!



SNOOP MCGOOK? HMM MM MM

YUP!

YEAH!

SURE!

HE'S OUR MAN, ALL RIGHT!



BETTER BE CAREFUL! HE DOESN'T LIKE PEOPLE COMING IN ON HIM UNEXPECTEDLY!

SHH-- HE'S CONCENTRATING!



LOOKS LIKE HE'S ASLEEP, TO ME!

CAREFUL! WE MUSTN'T DISTURB HIS THOUGHTS!



HEY--THAT BUMP IN THE CARPET! DON'T STEP ON IT!--OH/OH! NOW YOU DID IT!



WERE YOU LOOKING FOR ME, GENTLEMEN?

HALP!





WELL, THE MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE OF BEPPO SEEMS TO HAVE OUR HERO UP A TREE, BUT THE DAUNTLESS MCGOOK WILL DOUBTLESS FIGURE A WAY OUT OF HIS PRE-DICAMENT---HE'D BETTER!

**DO YOUR PART!
BUY DEFENSE BONDS AND STAMPS!**

KEITH KORNELL

WEST POINTER

WE'RE IN THE WAR NOW!---AND THE ARMY IS NO LONGER PULLING ITS PUNCHES ON WARTIME MANEUVERS IN THE FULL DRESS BATTLE BETWEEN THE RED AND BLUE ARMIES. AT THE MOMENT, THE BLUE ARMY, ONE OF WHOSE MEMBERS IS LIEUTENANT KEITH KORNELL, IS ON THE RUN BEING DRIVEN DEEPER AND DEEPER INTO THE FOREST

WE'LL TRY THIS HOUSE FOR SHELTER, MEN!



LIEUTENANT!---MAYBE WE OUGHTER TRY ANOTHER HOUSE! THIS ONE LOOKS KINDA SCARY!



NONSENSE!---ON SUCH A DARK NIGHT, EVEN A CHURCH WOULD LOOK SCARY.



BUT AS KEITH IS ABOUT TO KNOCK, THE DOOR SWINGS OPEN.





HELLO! IS ANYBODY AROUND?



FUNNY! --- NOT A SOUL IN HERE! OH WELL, I'M SURE WHO-EVER DOES OWN THIS HOUSE WON'T MIND OUR STAY-ING FOR THE NIGHT.



C'MON, SMOKY... WE'LL GO OUT AND GATHER SOME FIRE WOOD!



I NOTICED A WOODSHED BEFORE! --- OH THERE IT IS!

WHEN KEITH AND SMOKY RETURN ---

HEY! WHERE'S THE GANG?



HEY, EVERYBODY, WHERE ARE YOU? CUT OUT THE PLAYING!

YOO HOO! COME OUT WHERE-EVER YOU BE!



YOU GO UPSTAIRS, SMOKY, I'LL LOOK FOR EM IN THE CELLAR!



I BET THEY'RE PLAYIN' HIDE 'N SEEK! --- I'LL LOOK IN THAT CLOSET!





L--L--LOOTENANT
G--- GHOSTS--
UPSTAIRS
D-- DEAD ONES!

WHAT?



SMOKY'S
PROBABLY
SEEING THINGS---
BUT I'LL HAVE A
LOOK AT THAT
CLOSET ANYWAY!



AS KEITH GOES
TO OPEN THE CLOSET
DOOR---

Oooooo!



THE TIN SOLDIER'S
COMING TO!

OWOO! MY
HEAD! WHAT
HIT ME? WHO
ARE YOU?



I'M LITTLE BOY BLUE---
'N THIS, IS MY PLAYMATE,
BO PEEP! WHAT WERE
YOU SNOOPIN' AROUND
HERE, FOR?



I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOUR
GAME IS, BUT ONE THING
I'M SURE OF, YOU THUGS
MURDERED THAT MAN
IN THE CLOSET!

SURE WE DID! -- HE USED TO BE ONE OF OUR GANG. RAN AWAY WITH SOME SWAG THAT BELONGED TO US. HE RENTED OUT THIS OLD HOUSE -- BUT WE TRACKED HIM DOWN! THE DOUGH IS HIDDEN HERE, SOMEWHERE!



IT DON'T MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE ME TEL-LIN' YOU ALL THIS -- CAUSE IT'S GOIN' TO BE THE LAST BED-TIME STORY YOU'LL EVER HEAR!



AS THE KILLER THRUSTS DOWNWARD VICIOUSLY FOR THE DEATH STROKE, KEITH KORNELL ROLLS QUICKLY AND -----



UNNHH!



WITH THE KILLERS CONFUSED, KEITH QUICKLY SEVERS HIS BONDS



YOUR TRICKS AREN'T SO HOT! YOU NEED A LOT OF PRACTICE.

OOOF!



TRICKY, HUH! --- I GOT A TRICK TOO!



ALLRIGHT, I'M IN CHARGE NOW! WHERE ARE MY MEN?

D-DON'T SHOOT! --- THEY'RE ACROSS THE HALL!





OKAY!---START
UNTYING THEM!



ONE OF YOU GUYS GET IN
TOUCH WITH THE LOCAL
POLICE! I'M GOING TO
LOOK FOR SMOKY!



SMOKY! SMOKY!
WHERE ARE
YOU!



THAT'S FUNNY!---
NOT A TRACE OF
HIM! HE COULDN'T
HAVE DISAPPEARED
INTO THIN AIR!



WHAT'S THAT!
IT'S COMING FROM
INSIDE THAT
FURNACE!



H,HELLO,
LOOTENANT!

SAY
YOU'RE
NOT SCAR-
ED, BY ANY
CHANCE,
ARE YOU?



ME SCART!---NAW!---
I JEST CAME IN HERE
TO KEEP WARM!



SMOKY'S HIP
JOSTLES
SOMETHING,
AND---



WHASSAT?
LOOKS
LIKE MONEY!

IT IS! THE MONEY YOUR
"GHOSTS" WERE AFTER--
YOU HAVE A GENIUS
FOR BLUNDERING INTO
GOOD LUCK, SMOKY

THE
END

THE FIREFLY

LONG WEARY HOURS OF PAINSTAKING LABOR ARE UNDERGONE BY DR. RICHARD BLAKE AS HE WORKS TO PERFECT A REDUCING LIQUID UNTIL ONE NIGHT---

JUST A LITTLE MORE TRANSCRIBING OF THESE NOTES AND I'LL BE READY FOR THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE!

AT LAST I'VE DONE IT! THIS DISCOVERY SHOULD SURELY BRING ME THE SOBEL PRIZE!



A FEW DAYS LATER AT THE ACADEMY - I'M SORRY DR. BLAKE BUT YOUR DISCOVERY IS NOT AN ENTIRELY ORIGINAL ONE. SOMETHING SIMILAR WAS DISCOVERED CENTURIES AGO. WE CAN'T CONSIDER YOU FOR THE PRIZE!



NOT CONSIDERED FOR THE PRIZE - EH? ALL MY WORK FOR NOTHING. I'LL GET YOU FOR THIS - YOU ENVIOUS PACK OF STUFFED-SHIRTED FOOLS!



NEXT DAY-

I'LL MAKE THEM SORRY FOR WHAT THEY'VE DONE TO ME, I'LL SHOW THEM HOW ORIGINAL MY DISCOVERY IS!



HELLO, DR. CRAFT, THIS IS BLAKE. SORRY I BLEW UP LAST NIGHT. I'D LIKE TO HAVE YOU COME OVER AND SEE WHAT I'VE DONE - ANYHOW!



LATER - SAY, YOU'VE REALLY DONE SOME FINE WORK HERE - BLAKE. TOO BAD THAT FORGOTTEN, OLD DISCOVERY TURNED UP!



SUDDENLY

TOO BAD - EH?



I'M AFRAID IT'S GOING TO BE TOO BAD FOR YOU AND YOUR SO-CALLED SCIENTIST COLLEAGUES - MY FRIEND!



HE'S SHRINKING FAST! MY SERUM WORKS AS WELL ON HUMANS AS IT DOES ON ANIMALS!



YOU'RE MAD BLAKE! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO ME?

I'M JUST GOING TO CONVINCE YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS OF THE VALUE OF MY EXPERIMENTS!



DON'T BE A FOOL! RESTORE ME TO MY NORMAL SIZE!

PERHAPS I WILL, AFTER YOU'VE DONE WHAT I WANT YOU TO!



NEXT DAY AT THE HOME OF THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

I TELL YOU, HUDSON I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO MAKE OF IT. HERE, READ THIS!



Dr. Sloan, you and your so-called academy are a blot on the name of science. I think it would be better if you were put out of the way permanently! a friend of science

IT SOUNDS LIKE THE WORK OF SOME CRANK. I WOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT IT, DR.

PERHAPS YOU'RE RIGHT, HARLEY!



ON THE WAY HOME ---

I WONDER IF THERE'S ANYTHING TO THAT NOTE. PERHAPS THE FIREFLY HAD BETTER KEEP HIS EYE ON DR. SLOAN!



THAT NIGHT - THE FIREFLY



EVERYTHING LOOKS ALRIGHT SO FAR!



MEANWHILE INSIDE THE HOUSE, A TINY FIGURE CRAWLS FROM UNDER THE DESK --- AND ---



I DREAD DOING THIS - YET I CAN'T HELP MYSELF!



WHILE OUTSIDE - GREAT HEAVENS - SOMETHING'S HAPPENED TO SLOAN!



HE'S DEAD!
IT DOESN'T
SEEM
POSSIBLE!



HE WAS ALRIGHT
A MOMENT AGO. THIS
IS THE STRANGEST
THING I'VE EVER
SEEN!



MEANWHILE A POLICE HEAD
QUARTERS WHERE DR. BLAKE
IS BEING QUESTIONED

SURE I MADE SOME
WILD THREATS AGAINST
THE ACADEMY!... BUT
THAT DOESN'T PROVE
ANYTHING.



LATER AT HARLEY
HUDSON'S HOME --

ANOTHER THREATENING
NOTE. I THINK YOU'D BET-
TER TAKE THIS TO THE
POLICE!



THE FIREFLY FOLLOWS
REED TO POLICE H.Q.



IT CAME TONIGHT. I'M WOR-
RIED AND WANT THE
PROTECTION OF ONE OF
YOUR CELLS.

CERTAINLY,
DR. REED. I KNOW HOW
YOU FEEL ESPECIALLY
AFTER SLOAN'S
DEATH!



WHILE OUTSIDE
THE FIREFLY
WITNESSES A
STRANGE
SIGHT -

PROTECTION
OF A CELL,
EH?



SO, THAT'S HOW IT'S
DONE. I MUST GET
TO REED IN A
HURRY. I'LL
TAKE CARE
OF BLAKE -
LATER!





HEY-YOU CAN'T!

SORRY, BOYS.
I'M IN A HURRY!



CAN'T
WAIT TO
ARGUE
WITH
YOU,
EITHER!

HEY!



YOU WON'T
NEED THESE
KEYS FOR
A WHILE!



REED-REED!
WATCH IT-
GET UP ON
YOUR
COT.



GREAT
HEAVENS-
IT'S DR.
CRAFT!



WHAT'S THIS?
YOU'RE NO
MURDERER!

IT'S THAT
MADMAN, BLAKE.
HE TRICKED ME
AND INJECTED
HIS REDUCING
SERUM INTO ME.
I'VE GOT TO CARRY
OUT HIS ORDERS OR
HE'LL NEVER RESTORE
ME TO NORMAL
SIZE!



YOU'LL BE ALRIGHT-
NOW-REED
I'M GOING AFTER
BLAKE!



MEANWHILE IN BLAKE'S LAB

THAT FOOL-CRAFT, SO HE
THINKS I'LL RESTORE HIS
SIZE. EH? WHEN HE COMES
BACK I'LL GET RID OF HIM-
TOO!

SUDDENLY--

I'M AFRAID
YOU'LL HAVE
TO CHANGE
YOUR PLANS,
BLAKE.

THIS'LL
CHANGE YOUR
MIND FOR
YOU!

I'M SORRY BUT
MY MIND'S MADE
UP ALREADY!

GREAT SCOTT - THAT
ACID'S STARTED
A FIRE!

IF THIS
PLACE IS
DESTROYED
I'LL REMAIN
THIS
WAY!

FEVERISHLY THE FIREFLY
SCANS BLAKE'S NOTES.
UNTIL AT LAST ----

HERE IT IS ----
THE ANTIDOTE!
I CAN PREPARE
THIS IMMEDIATELY!

HURRY!
PLEASE!

DRINK THIS - ITS EFFECT
WILL BE IMMEDIATE!

WHAT ABOUT BLAKE?
WE CAN'T LEAVE HIM!
HE'S DONE FOR -
WE'D BETTER GET
OUT IF WE WANT TO
SAVE OURSELVES!

AT THE NEXT MEETING OF THE
ACADEMY OF SCIENCE --
GENTLEMEN - IT WAS THE
MOST AMAZING SCIENTIFIC
EXHIBITION I HAVE
EVER SEEN!

WELL
WELL - THIS
IS GRAT-
IFYING
NEWS!

DR. CRAFT
CALLS FIRE -
FLY ONE OF
YEARS OUT
STANDING
SCIENTISTS!

THE ST. LOUIS KID



YA YELLOW PUNK!-----
YOU KNOW BLINKETY BLANK WELL THE KID'S THE ONLY ONE AROUND WHO REALLY DESERVES A FIGHT WITH YOUR BEETLE BROWED GORILLA!

IZZASO!! WELL LEMME TELL YOU SUMPIN'-----



THERE'S A HOT TIME IN THE OLD TOWN TO-NIGHT THE ST LOUIS KID'S MANAGER, WINDY IS BURNING UP THE AMERICAN LANGUAGE TRYING TO GET THE HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMP TO GIVE HIS BOY A SHOT AT THE TITLE

LATER AT THE KID'S TRAINING GYM-----



WINDY---IS IT ALL SET!---DO I GET THE FIGHT?
I GOT BAD NEWS FOR YOU, KID!



THEY TURNED ME DOWN COLD! SAID YOU WEREN'T RIPE YET!
WOTTA LOUSY EXCUSE!---MY PAPER'LL BLAST HIM PLENTY!



THE ENTIRE SPORTING WORLD PICKS UP THE CUDGELS FOR THE ST LOUIS KID----
--AND THERE'S NO DOUBT IN THIS COMMENATOR'S MIND THAT THE CHAMP IS SCARED STIFF!!



IN THE CHAMP'S HOME

THE KID'S TOO CLASSY FOR THE CHEESE CHAMP!



EVERY-BODY'S RIBBIN' ME!!! WE SHOULDA GIVEN 'IM THE FIGHT

SHEDDER!!----- IT'S BETTER TO BE RIBBED THAN BE THE EX-CHAMP!!



REGISTERED LETTER FOR THE CHAMP!!



SUFFERIN' SWEAT-SOX!! YOU'VE BEEN DRAFTED IN THE ARMY!

OWOO! EVERY-THING HAPPENS TO ME!



WAIT A MINUTE!-- IT'S A TOUGH BREAK, ALLRIGHT BUT AT LEAST IT GIVES US AN OUT! I'LL CALL UP WINDY RIGHT NOW!



YEAH!--- THIS IS WINDY!-- OH IT'S YOU, IS IT! WELL, WHADDA YOU WANT?



WHAT?-- SAY, THIS NO GAG IS IT? BOY OBOY!--- WE'LL BE RIGHT DOWN!



WHAT HAPPEN-ED, WINDY?

THE CHAMP CHANGED HIS MIND! HE'S GON-NA FIGHT YOU! C'MON!



HIYA, WINDY! READY TO SIGN?

YOU BETCHA!--- WE'VE BEEN READY FOR MONTHS!



AND TO SHOW YOU REPORTERS WHAT A GOOD GUY I AM, I'M GONNA DONATE MY PURSE TO THE U.S.O.!!



NICE GOIN'! CHAMP! THOSE REPORTERS THINK YOU'RE A SWELL GUY NOW! TOO BAD UNCLE SAM'S GONNA CALL OFF THIS FIGHT, AIN'T IT?



LATER, POP MALLOY DOES SOME 'CELEBRATING!
SET 'EM UP, PADDY--- FOR ME!!
OH, OH! TURN OFF THE FAN! HERE COMES THE BIG WIND!



'AN SO I SAYS TO THAT CHAMP, WHY DON'T YOU FIGHT SOMEBODY WHO'LL MAKE YOU WORK FOR YOUR MONEY!



SHURE! AND WHY DON'T YOU WORK FOR YOURS--- SO YOU CAN PAY ME FOR THESE DRINKS ONCE IN A WHILE!

AW, JOBS ARE PRETTY SCARCE, PADDY--- YOU KNOW THAT!



WHY DON'T YOU APPLY FOR THAT WARDEN'S JOB, POP?

WARDEN! THAT'S RIGHT UP MY ALLEY



THIS IS THE ADDRESS MIKE HOGAN GAVE ME!



HIYA SERGEANT! IS THAT WARDEN'S JOB STILL OPEN?

IT SURE IS! JUST SIGN RIGHT HERE AND IT'S YOURS!



OKAY! HERE'S MY SIGNATURE! WHAT JAIL AM I SUPPOSED TO BE THE WARDEN OF?



-AND FOLLOWS IT UP WITH A BAR-
RAGE OF SLEDGE HAMMER BLOWS.
THE CHAMP DESPERATELY TRIES
TO COUNTER--



-LEAVES HIMSELF WIDE-
OPEN AND THE KID WASTES
NO TIME--



GET UP,
YA BUM,
AND GIVE US
A RUN FOR
OUR
DOUGH!

1-2-3-

A ONE-
ROUND
KAYO!



LET'S TAKE A QUICK
FLASH TO POP WHO IS
ON AIR-RAID DUTY OUT-
SIDE THE GARDEN--



POP RUSHES INTO THE
GARDEN--

RUN FOR
YOUR LIVES EVERYBODY!
IT'S AN AIR RAID!



QUICK! WHERE'S
THE MAIN SWITCH?
WE GOTTA HAVE
A BLACKOUT!

OVER
THERE BY
EXIT 23!

-5-6-



AIR-RAID, OR
NO AIR-RAID
I'M GONNA
COUNT THIS
GUY OUT!

-7-8-



AND THEN, JUST AS THE
REF IS ABOUT TO TOLL
THE FINAL COUNT THAT
WILL USHER IN A NEW
CHAMP--

9-HEY-WHAT'S
HAPPENED TO
THE LIGHTS?



THE CHAMP'S MANA-
GER IS QUICK TO TAKE
ADVANTAGE OF THE
SITUATION!

C'MON --- GET HIM IN-
TO THE DRESSING
ROOM!



WOW!-- OUT LIKE
A LIGHT! YOU STAY
HERE AND BRING
HIM TO, SAMMY---I'M
GOING BACK TO
THE RING!!



WHEN THE LIGHTS
GO ON!

BE CALM EVERYBODY!--
THERE'S NO AIR-RAID!
IT'S ALL A MISTAKE!



YOU JUDGES'LL HAVE TO CALL
THIS FIGHT OFF! MY BOY IS IN
HIS DRESSING ROOM WITH---
ER---AHEM---A SPRAINED
ANKLE. HE SLIPPED IN THE
DARK!!! AND YOU CAN'T
PROVE DIFFERENT, SEE!!



LADEEZ'N GENNULMEN
THE FIGHT IS CALLED
OFF! THERE IS NO DE-
CISION!



THE ST. LOUIS
KID WON THIS
FIGHT!

ROBBERS

BOO!

LATER

HOW'D I KNOW IT WUZ
ONLY A FIRE ENGINE?
CALL UP THE ST. LOUIS
KID HE'LL BAIL ME!
OUT!!



WHAT! POP MALLOY WANTS
THE KID TO BAIL HIM OUTTA
JAIL!-----THAT BABOON-
FACED DOPE CAN ROT THERE!
AND FURTHERMORE-----



BLANKETY BLANK
HORSE'S NECK
GHTN!!X!



HE SAID
NO!!



OKAY!---- SO I MISSED
OUT ON THE CHAMPION-
SHIP BY A HAIR ON POP
MALLOY'S HEAD---BUT I'M
NOT THROUGH YET! I'LL
GET THAT CROWN--OR
DIE TRYIN'! YOU JUST
WAIT AND SEE!



THE WAR IS ON!

IN

SPECIAL COMICS

SPECIAL CASES WITH THE HANGMAN AND THE BOY BUDDIES

IT'S A FIGHT TO THE FINISH, GANG IN THIS ALL OUT WAR AGAINST CRIME! --- AND THOSE BOY BUDDIES, ROY, THE SUPERBOY AND DUSTY THE BOY DETECTIVE, GET TO-GETHER FOR THE FIRST TIME IN SOME SLAM-BANG ADVENTURES THAT'LL LEAVE YOU LIMP!

THE HANGMAN SENSATIONAL SMASH HIT OF PEP COMICS, HAS PICKED UP THE CHALLENGE FLUNG AT SOCIETY BY THE CRIMINAL --- AND HAS DECLARED WAR! RENTLESS, UNYIELDING WAR! AND HEAVEN HELP THE LOSER!



ON SALE AT YOUR NEWSSTANDS NOW!

WINGS JOHNSON

OF THE *Air Patrol*

ON THE WAY BACK FROM A RAID ON GERMANY, WINGS AND HENRY ARE ATTACKED BY A FLIGHT OF MESSERSCHMITTS-- WINGS BANKS HIS LOCKHEED---

BY
ED SMALLE

GIVE 'EM
THE WORKS
HENRY!



NICE WORK,
HENRY--
HEY!
WATCH
THAT
LAST
ONE!



OH
OH



H'I GOT
THE
BLIGHTER!
WINGSIE.

YEAH, BUT TOO
LATE. LOOK AT
OUR WING!
WE'LL BE
LUCKY IF WE
MAKE IT BACK
HOME!





LATER IN THE AZORES



SO THIS IS THE MAIN STEM EH?

BOY, LOOK H'AT THAT LOOKER, H'IM GOING TO TRY TO DATE ER UP--

?



EXCUSE ME BUT AREN'T YOU AN AMERICAN? I'M MARY MAY, REPORTER FOR THE NEW YORK STAR, GEE IT'S GOOD TO HEAR SOME-ONE FROM HOME!

WHY, YES, WINGS JOHNSON, AT YOUR SERVICE MAM!



I'VE BEEN HERE TWO MONTHS TRYING TO GET TO LONDON. ALL I HEAR IS PORTUGUESE LINGO.

SAY, YOU MUST KNOW THIS PLACE PRETTY WELL. HOW ABOUT SHOWING US AROUND.



I'D BE GLAD TO THERE'S A FIESTA TONIGHT... DID YOU SAY "US"?

YES, MY PARTNER HAS JUST GONE LOOKING FOR A DATE. HERE HE COMES NOW.



THIS IS HENRY HIGGINS-MISS MAY, WHAT HAPPENED HENRY, YOUR FACE IS RED!

OW, H'ALL I DID WAS ASK FOR A DATE H'AND SHE SLAPPED ME!



THESE LATINS HAVE DIFFERENT RULES. YOU MUST MEET A GIRL AT A DANCE OR HER HOME...

WERE GOING TO A FIESTA WITH MISS MAY TONIGHT. MAYBE YOU'LL HAVE BETTER LUCK!



THAT NIGHT AT THE FIESTA...

CAN WE TRUST YOU NOT TO GET INTO MISCHIEF WHILE WE DANCE?

DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME-HI CAN TAKE CARE OF ME-SELF.



AS THE MUSIC STOPS... BLIMEY, THERE'S THAT SENORITA H'AGAIN-MAYBE HITS SAFE TO SPEAK TO HER NOW.

--LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THE NEXT DANCE WILL BE THE....



HENRY USES SIGN LANGUAGE.

HI DONT KNOW OW YE SAY HIT IN YOUR LINGO BUT OW ABOUT CUTTING HA' RUG?

AH, SI SENOR, SI!

HOLY COW! HENRY SHOULD NOT BE DANCING NOW. TO ASK A NATIVE GIRL FOR THIS DANCE IS THE SAME AS SAYING "WILL YOU MARRY ME?"

COME ON! WE'VE GOT TO STOP HIM!



HENRY, STOP! IF YOU DANCE THIS NUMBER YOU'VE GOT TO MARRY THE GIRL!



GO 'WAY, H'I'M 'AVIN A-- HUH? MARRY!!

SORRY, PAL, SPAGETTI MAG HIT'S ALL A MISTAKE. H'EXCUSE ME!

ETT DOLA OOP! (MEANING - "WHAT'S THIS- ANOTHER RUN-AROUND")



SUDDENLY THE SENOR-ITA'S BROTHER APPEARS-

(IN PORTUGUESE) SENOR, IT'S ALL A MISTAKE - HE DIDN'T KNOW THE CUSTOM!



HENRY, HE SAYS IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE - YOU DANCED WITH HER SO YOU'VE GOT TO MARRY HER!



BUT H'I DON'T WANNA GET MARRIED!

IMPATIENT, THE BROTHER PICKS HENRY UP....

WINGSIE, HALP!

PUT HIM DOWN, YOU LUG!



HE SAID HE WAS SORRY SO PUT HIM DOWN!



CARAMBA BANDANA! (MEANING "SO YOU WANT TO FIGHT, EH?")

WINGS, LOOKOUT! THEY'RE GANG-ING UP ON YOU!

PISTACHIO, MADIO! (MEANING - COME ON, GANG, WE'LL TEACH THESE FOREIGNERS A LESSON!)





BENVENUTO CELLINI



OF ALL THE GREAT MEN OF THE ITALIAN RENAISSANCE, THE LIFE OF CELLINI WAS THE MOST AMAZING - FAMOUS AS AN ARTIST, SWORDSMAN AND LOVER - BORN OF HUMBLE PARENTS - HE BECAME THE COMPANION OF PRINCES - BUT HE WAS ALWAYS IN TROUBLE BECAUSE OF HIS QUICK TONGUE -

IN HIS EARLY YOUTH HE AMAZED THE MASTERS WITH HIS PAINTINGS AND DRAWING -



AT 15, HE WAS APPRENTICED TO A GOLDSMITH WITH WHOM HE WORKED FOR TWO YEARS.

MY SON, YOU WILL HAVE A GREAT FUTURE.



AT THIS EARLY AGE HE SHOWED COURAGE BY DEFENDING HIS BROTHER FROM THE ATTACKS OF A CROWD.



I HAVE WORKED IN FLORENCE FOR TWO LONG YEARS - TO-MORROW I WILL START FOR ROME - COME WITH ME IF YOU LIKE!



ROME AT LAST! AND ST PETER'S DOME - NOW TO FIND A JOB!



I WILL GIVE YOU A CHANCE TO WORK



THE ARTISTRY OF YOUNG CELLINI'S WORK AMAZED EVERYONE - AND FOR TWO YEARS HE WORKED IN ROME. FAME AND FORTUNE POURED IN ON HIM AND HIS AGED FATHER IN FLORENCE BENEFITED FROM THE LATTER.

ONE NIGHT, A DUEL WAS FORCED ON HIM AND HE FELL HIS OPPONENT!



STOP! YOU MURDERER!

MY ONLY HOPE OF ESCAPE IS TO GET TO MY FATHER'S HOUSE!



WITH THE POLICE AFTER HIM - HE FLED THROUGH THE STREETS OF ROME IN DISGUISE.

WELCOME, MY SON, WHATEVER YOU HAVE DONE, YOU SHALL BE SHELTERED HERE.



BACK IN ROME AGAIN-AND ALL IS FORGIVEN-ONE DAY IN THE ART GALLERY OF THE VATICAN HE IS DRAWING A PIECE OF SCULPTURE.



THE COUNTESS- LUCIA BIDS ME TO ASK YOU TO BRING HER A PIECE OF YOUR WORK -SHE WILL PAY YOU WELL!



OH-IT IS BEAUTIFUL-HOW CAN I REPAY YOU?



HA, HA, SHE NOT ONLY LOVES ME-BUT PAYS ME AS WELL!



OUTSIDE THE CASTLE WALL THREE MEN ARE INTENT ON ROBBERY.

THIS IS YOUR UNLUCKY DAY- NOT MINE!



SWINE- WHILE I REMAIN THE BEST SWORDSMAN IN ITALY- THE GOLD I EARN WILL REMAIN WITH ME!



CELLINI WAS NOW RICH- THE COUNTESS SHOWED HIM WITH COMMISSIONS- AND GOLD CAME FROM KINGS AND PRINCES

NOW- MY POOR FATHER WILL NEVER HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT ANYTHING AGAIN!



ITALY IS AT WAR AND A FRENCH ARMY IS MARCHING ON ROME - WITHIN THE CITY, THE POPE HAS ENTRUSTED HIS SAFETY TO CELLINI - WHO IS NOW ON THE CITY'S WALLS WATCHING THE ON-COMING FRENCH!



FOR MONTHS THE SIEGE OF THE CASTLE LASTED - WITH CELLINI'S CANNON FIRE BRINGING TERROR TO THE RANKS OF THE ENEMY.



AND FINALLY THE ENEMY, EXHAUSTED SIGNED A PEACE - THE POPE IS SAVED - AND THE TOWN'S PEOPLE ARE SET FREE.

YOUR HOLINESS, YOU ARE WISE TO TAKE MY ADVICE, AND THROW CELLINI IN PRISON - HE IS A DANGEROUS MAN!



CELLINI'S LUCK DIDN'T LAST LONG - ENEMIES WHO WERE CLOSE TO THE POPE PLOTTED AGAINST HIM!

YOU-BLACKGUARD! WHEN THE POPE HEARS OF THIS YOU WILL SWING!



HA, HA, IT WAS THE POPE HIMSELF WHO HAD YOU PUT HERE - NOW ROT!



CELLINI DIDN'T ROT IN PRISON - INSTEAD HE MADE A ROPE FROM SHEETS - AND CUT THE DOOR FROM ITS HINGES.

FIRST TO GET THE JAILER OUT OF MY WAY!



I HOPE THIS ROPE IS LONG ENOUGH!



BUT IT WASN'T!



IF I HAD NOT BROKEN MY LEG FROM THE FALL, I WOULD BE SAFE BY NOW - IF I CAN ONLY GET SAFELY TO THE DUKE



CELLINI! - THANK HEAVENS YOU ARE SAFE!



CELLINI IS AT WORK ON HIS GREATEST STATUE "PERSUES" WHEN THE POLICE COME AFTER HIM AGAIN - WE WILL GIVE YOU ONE WEEK TO FINISH YOUR STATUE! -



ONE WEEK! HOW WILL I EVER FINISH IN TIME -



THE STATUE IS TO BE CAST IN BRONZE - AND A SMELTING FURNACE IS BUILT

BRING THE REST OF MY MEDALS AND SILVER VASES - WE MUST FINISH THE STATUE!



HE DEVELOPS A TERRIBLE FEVER WHILE THE WORK IS IN PROGRESS AND HAS TO THROW ALL HIS SILVER AND GOLD INTO THE MOLD AS HE DOES NOT HAVE ENOUGH BRONZE TO FINISH THE CASTING.

MEANWHILE -

HURRY! - THE POLICE ARE COMING DOWN THE ROAD!



YOU MAY TAKE ME - THE STATUE IS FINISHED - AND WILL MAKE ME IMMORTAL.



SUCH WAS THE ACCLAIM OF "CELLINI'S 'PERSUES'" THAT HE WAS FREED FROM PRISON AND ACKNOWLEDGED AS ITALY'S GREATEST ARTIST.



- AND HIS IMAGE RESTS IN THE "HALL OF FAME."

KARDAK

THE *Mystic* MAGICIAN

A SLIGHT CREAKING OF TIMBERS, THEN A LOUD SPLINTERING CRASH AND THE FRANTIC RACE OF DOOMED MEN TO ESCAPE SWIFT, SUDDEN DEATH, AS GRIM, STARK TRAGEDY, IN THE FORM OF A CAVE-IN, VISITS THE NEWCOMB COAL MINES!



THEN A LOUD SHRILL SIREN IS SOUNDED.

SUMMONING THE FAMILIES OF THE MINERS, EACH HOPING AND PRAYING AGAINST HOPE THAT THEIR MAN HAS BEEN SPARED!

SOME OF THE VICTIMS ARE FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO BE BROUGHT OUT ALIVE -----



COME ON CHARLIE YOU'RE GOING TO BE ALRIGHT!

EASY JOE

OOW

KARDAK, THE MYSTIC MAGICIAN, DRIVING THROUGH THE COAL COUNTRY HAPPENS ON THE DESOLATE SCENE.

GREAT SCOTT!
WHAT IS ALL
THIS?



JUST HOW DID THIS HAPPEN, MISTER!

IT'S THAT
BLINKETY BLANK
NEWCOMB!



TIME AND TIME AGAIN WE
BEGGED HIM TO IN-
STALL SAFETY DEVICES
AND IMPROVEMENTS IN
HIS MINES, BUT HE NEVER
DID ANYTHING ABOUT
THEM! OUR HANDS ARE
TIED, WE
NEED
OUR
JOBS!



LATER

MAYBE I CAN
MAKE THIS
NEWCOMB
LISTEN TO
REASON!



A MR. KARDAK TO SEE
YOU, SIR!

HM, WHAT CAN
I DO FOR
YOU, SIR!



I DON'T WANT ANYTHING
OF YOU, IT'S THOSE POOR
WORKERS OF YOURS
WHO NEED SOME OF
YOUR ATTENTION!

OH FIDDLESTICKS
THEY'RE PAMPER-
ED ENOUGH, AS IS.



JUST THEN

OH, WILLIAM, SOME-
THING TERRIBLE HAS
HAPPENED!

WHAT
IS IT
MY
DEAR?



PROFESSOR KARLO HAS
BEEN TAKEN ILL AND
WON'T BE ABLE TO
HOLD THE SEANCE
HERE TO-
NIGHT! WHAT
WILL
WE DO?



I BEG YOUR PARDON, MA-
DAM, BUT I'M FAMILIAR
WITH THAT TYPE OF THING
AND I COULD CONDUCT
A SEANCE FOR YOU.

OH, HOW
WONDER-
FUL!





THAT NIGHT
AS THE NEW-
COMBS ENTER-
TAIN AT A DIN-
NER PARTY.

OKAY FOLKS, AND NOW
LET'S GO INTO THE
DRAWING ROOM FOR
OUR LITTLE SEANCE!



DO YOU REALLY EXPECT
TO CONTACT THE SPIRIT
WORLD, KARDAK!



WHY
CERTAINLY

WILL YOU ALL PLACE YOUR HANDS
FLAT ON THE TABLE, PLEASE!



NOW REMAIN PERFECTLY
STILL AND CONCENTRATE
ON THE SUBJECT AT
HAND!



A SHORT TIME LATER THE
LIGHTS GO ON AGAIN...

PRETTY GOOD, EH FOLKS,
AND NOW WHAT WOULD
YOU LIKE
TO DO?



WHAT SAY WE HOP
DOWN TO YOUR COAL
MINE AND HAVE A
LOOK AROUND.



THAT WOULD
BE GRAND!

SWELL.

A FEW MOMENTS
LATER, THE GAY
CROWD LEAVES
FOR THE MINES.
INTENT ON A NEW
KIND OF AMUSE-
MENT.



SHORTLY AFTERWARD, THEY ARRIVE AT NEWCOMB'S MINE ----

HELLO THERE GEORGE, I'D LIKE TO HAVE YOU SHOW THESE FRIENDS OF MINE, AROUND THE MINE!

CERTAINLY MR. NEWCOMB, FOLLOW ME!



THE SHAFT DESCENDS SWIFTLY INTO THE EARTH ----



THIS IS SIMPLY TOO THRILLING!

HA HA... FUNNY! I'VE NEVER BEEN IN MY OWN MINE BEFORE!



SUDDENLY AT THE END OF THE PASSAGE, WATER FROM AN UNDERGROUND STREAM STARTS TO TRICKLE IN.



THE FAULTY CONSTRUCTION GIVES WAY AND ----

HOLY COW! RUN FOR YOUR LIVES IT'S A WASHOUT!

MY HEAVENS!



FOLLOW ME, QUICK!

GET US OUT OF HERE!

COME ON, WE GOTTA GET UP ON A HIGHER LEVEL!



THE PANIC STRICKEN CROWD DESPERATELY FOLLOWS ----



IT'S RISIN' FAST!
AND THIS IS AS
HIGH AS WE
CAN GO!



HOW ABOUT THE PUMPS,
CALL UP
AND HAVE
THEM
STARTED!



YOU MUST
BE MAD, IT
CAN'T BE
OUT OF
ORDER!



HELLO, HELLO!
WHAT'S THE
MATTER
WITH THIS
DANGED THING!



IT'S NO USE NEWCOMB, IT'S DEAD. WE TRIED
TO GET THE FRONT OFFICE TO FIX THE WHOLE
SYSTEM. BUT THEY NEVER BOTHERED!



FRANTICALLY THEY PEEL THEIR COATS
AND START DIGGING FEVERISHLY!

C'MON THERE'S STILL A CHANCE,
IF WE CAN DIG OUR WAY INTO
THE NEXT SHAFT!





HOWEVER!

WHY THESE TOOLS!
THEY'VE BROKEN NO
GOOD! WHY DID I
EVER TRY TO
SAVE MONEY
ON THEM!



SOON THE AIR IN THE
CONFINED SPACE
STARTS TO GIVE OUT!

I'M CHOKING!



AND

I CAN'T
STAND IT ANY
LONGER!

AAGH!



SUDDENLY

WELL, MR. NEW-
COMB! HOW DO
YOU LIKE THE
LUXURIOUS CON-
DITIONS UNDER
WHICH YOUR
PAMPERED MINERS
WORK!



WHAT A BLIND SEL-
FISH FOOL I'VE BEEN!
IF ONLY IT WASN'T
TOO LATE ----



NO SOONER
ARE THE
WORDS OUT
OF NEW-
COMB'S
MOUTH
THAN---

ALRIGHT,
FOLKS, THE SEANCE
IS OVER!

IT WAS A
SEANCE, WASN'T
IT, KARDAK?

GOOD LORD! ---
ONLY A SEANCE
AND YET IT
ALL
SEEMED
SO REAL---

MAYBE ---
AND MAY-
BE NOT! ---
AT ANY
RATE, IT WAS
CERTAINLY
REAL TO
YOUR MIN-
ERS! SO
LONG!

GOODBY, KARDAK! AND
DON'T WORRY! --- I SHAN'T
FORGET MY PROMISE!



Special to the readers of **PEP COMICS**

Meet the Navy

Only to the readers of this magazine, for the first time, we will ship to you **ABSOLUTELY FREE** a series of about FIFTY pictures showing "your" UNITED STATES NAVY, its signs, commissions and other interesting data. These magnificent pictures may be projected in the COMICSCOPE in any size and in the exact color on any flat surface. Highly educational interesting and up minute developments and designs of the U. S. Navy.

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The COMICSCOPE is a camera PROJECTOR that measures seven inches long, seven inches deep and three inches wide. By attaching it to any electrical lamp or socket which you have at home, AC or DC current it is ready for use. Any one can operate it easily. All pictures, comic magazine strips, newspaper comics, daily and Sunday newspapers, can be used as "film" in the COMICSCOPE and flashed on the wall or screen. You can draw your own pictures, make your own "film" and project them. Now you can take your own Hollywood screen tests by projecting your own and family snapshots. There are no coupons to save. Astonish your friends and win new popularity. Give picture parties, charge admission, make money.



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Actual size of the COMICSCOPE is seven inches long seven inches deep and three inches wide.

SCREEN YOUR FAVORITE COMIC CHARACTERS IN FULL COLOR

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**C'mon—
BOYS-GIRLS
MEN-WOMEN**

PICK YOUR PRIZE

THESE PRIZES ARE GIVEN TO YOU—Just send for 30 packets of easy selling Garden Spot Seeds which you can easily and quickly sell to your friends and neighbors at 10c each. Return the \$3.00 collected and select your Prize in accordance to our offers. SEND NO MONEY—WE TRUST YOU.

Real Live CANARY



What a pet!
You will love it. Canary and Cage both given for selling only two orders. WHITE TO-DAY.
Sent Express Collect.



BOTH GIVEN

**GUITAR-uke
AND
MANDOLIN**

Just the Instruments for you until you can afford those of larger size. BOTH GUITAR-uke and Mandolin given for selling only 30 pkts. of Garden Spot Seeds at 10 cts. a pkt.



PRIZE TYPEWRITER GIVEN

Gift for the lady who writes on this machine. Simply dispose of only two orders of Garden Spot Seeds at 10c a pkt. and Typewriter is yours.



RADIO
Pocket Size
Needs no batteries or electrical connections. Sell only two 20 pkt. lots.

22 Piece TABLEWARE SET GIVEN



Set of 22 pieces. 6 Forks, 6 Teaspoons, 6 Butter Knives and 6 Sugar Spoons. 22-1/2" long. Selling only 30 pkts. of seeds at 10 cts. a pkt.

LADIES' NEW FASHION WRIST WATCH GIVEN



Sparkling diamond set. Yours for disposing of only two orders of Garden Spot Seeds. WHITE TODAY.

Beautiful DINNER SET



This beautiful Set Given for selling only 1 order of Seeds. Sent Express Collect.

CANDID-Type CAMERA

Sell only one order of Garden Spot Seeds at 10 cts. a packet and this splendid camera is yours. WRITE FOR SEEDS TODAY.



BLUE BIRD GRANITE GIVEN



Entire Set Given for selling only 30 pkts. of Seeds at 10c a pkt. WHITE TODAY.

Will Make You Proud of Your Kitchen

**SEND NO MONEY
WE TRUST YOU.**



Crinkled BED SPREAD

Attractive Colors
The crinkled stripes are really new in contrasting stripes. Size 10 x 10. Simply dispose of only 1 order.

Basket Ball GIVEN



Latest Rubber Valve Type. Given for selling only 30 pkts. at 10 cts. each.



VIOLIN, BOW & INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN

Handsome finish, highly polished. POSITIVELY NOT A TOY. Send no money. GIVEN for selling only 4 orders. MAIL THE COUPON TODAY, BE FIRST.



THIS PIN IS YOURS FREE

Just mail the Coupon today and this beautiful pin, symbolic of American Freedom, will be sent right along with the seeds. HURRY!

MAIL COUPON TODAY.

Leamaster County Seed Co.,
Station 393, Paradise, Pa.

Please send me 30 packets (one order) of Garden Spot Seeds to sell at 10 cts. a pkt. for a fine Gift. I will sell and pay for seeds in 30 days. Also send right along with Seeds Patriotic Pin shown above.

Name _____
Post Office _____
State _____
Street or R.F.D. _____ Box _____
Print your last name plainly below

Save 2 cents by filling in, pasting and mailing this Coupon on a 1c Post Card TODAY.

A COMPLETE FISHING OUTFIT



Suitable for Dad or Son

This set is complete and practical, as shown. Given for selling only one 20 pkt. order of Garden Spot Seeds at 10 cts. each. WRITE FOR SEEDS TODAY.